



PATENT  
8697.001.00

#13/B  
CU  
10/23/01  
(10-5)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re application of

Stephen J. DAVIS

Group Art Unit: 2167

Application No.: 09/446,951

Examiner: M. CUFF

Filed: February 28, 2000

For: STEP APPARATUS

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

RECEIVED  
OCT 22 2001  
Technology Center 2100

Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to a Final Office Action dated April 20, 2001, the period of response which has been extended to October 20, 2001, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **CANCEL** claim 35 without prejudice or disclaimer of the underlying subject matter.

Please **ADD** new claim 38 as follows:

38. (New) A step apparatus, including:

a mounting portion adapted to be secured to the vehicle by the hitch assembly thereof;

and